

**SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**HEARING EXAMINER DIRECTIVE**

**DOCKET NO. [2013-119-S](#)**

**APRIL 10, 2013**

Josh Minges  
Hearing Examiner

**DOCKET DESCRIPTION:**

**Robert B. Farmer - RBF Enterprises, LLC d/b/a McDonalds, Complainant/Petitioner v. Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation, LLC d/b/a Alpine Utilities, Defendant/Respondent**

**MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

Motion to hold matter in abeyance (1) in order for Complainant to comply with Commission Regulation 103-805(B) and *In Re: Unauthorized Practice of Law Rules Proposed by the South Carolina Bar*, 309 S.C. 304 (1992) and (2) in order for ORS to complete a study on Alpine Utilities commercial rates.

**HEARING EXAMINER ACTION:**

Although Robert B. Farmer has filed a Complaint against Alpine Utilities, RBF Enterprises, LLC d/b/a McDonalds appears to be the actual customer of that Company. By Order of the South Carolina Supreme Court and Commission Regulation 103-805(B), limited liability companies and other corporate structures must be represented by an attorney who is authorized to practice law in this State. As a result, this matter cannot proceed until RBF Enterprises retains representative counsel.

However, even though RBF Enterprises may retain counsel, the Commission has requested that the Office of Regulatory Staff investigate Alpine's commercial rates in general. The results of the investigation may have a bearing on this Complaint. Therefore, all the pre-filing dates and the hearing date are held in abeyance until further order.